GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:101
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2006
AVAILABILITY OF SUGAR
Bellarmin Shri A.V.;Rao Shri Kavuru Samba Siva

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the production, consumption, export and import of sugar during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the Government proposes to introduce a new long-term pricing and procurement mechanism to provide protection to cane growers, sugar industry and consumers;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government proposes to revive the earlier system of supplying sugar to all the consumers through the Public Distribution System (PDS);

(e) if so, whether the Government proposes to do away with levy quota system and work out new mechanism for giving direct subsidy on distribution of sugar through PDS;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether the Government proposes to further liberalise sugar exports even under such a precarious situation; and

(h) if so, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a), (b), (c), (d) (e) (f) (g) & (h): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (h) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO.101 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 31.07.2006 IN THE LOK SABHA.

(a): The production, and consumption of sugar during the last three sugar years (October-September) was as under:

(In lakh tonnes)

Sugar Year (Oct.-Sep.)	Production	Consumption
2002-2003	201.32	183.76
2003-2004 (P)	139.58	175.00
2004-2005 (P)	130.00	171.44

(P) - Provisional

The import and export of sugar, as per Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics, Kolkata during the last three financial years were as under:

(Quantity in lakh M.Ts)

Financial Year (April-March)	Import	Export
2003-2004	0.74	12.00
2004-2005	9.33	1.09
2005-2006 (P)	5.59	3.17

(P) - Provisional

(b) & (c): The existing policies and laws/regulations of the Government are adequate to protect the interests of main stakeholders, namely, cane growers, producers of sugar and consumers at present.

(d), (e) & (f): No such proposal is under consideration.

(g) & (h): Government, vide notification dated 4.7.2006 has prohibited export of sugar upto 31.3.2007 except export of preferential quota to European Union and U.S.A.